

Appln. No. 09/965,723
 Amendment dated September 5, 2003
 Reply to Office Action mailed June 9, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. (Canceled) A cleaning utensil comprising:
 a panel having a top surface, a bottom surface and a peripheral edge extending between said top and bottom surfaces, a plurality of bristles being attached to and extending away from said bottom surface of said panel; and
 a gripping member being attached to said top surface, said gripping member extending upwardly from said top surface in an arcuate manner, said gripping member being contoured to the general shape of a hand.

A ~ 2. (Canceled) The cleaning utensil as in claim 1, wherein said top surface has a generally rectangular shape such that said peripheral edge includes a front edge, a back edge, a first side edge and a second side edge.

3. (Canceled) The cleaning utensil as in claim 2, further including a securing means being attached to said panel for removably securing said panel to the hand of a user.

4. (Canceled) The cleaning utensil as in claim 3, wherein said securing means comprises a strap having a first end and a second end, said first end being attached to said first side edge and said second end being attached to said second side edge.

5. (Canceled) The cleaning utensil as in claim 4, wherein said strap comprises a resiliently stretchable cloth material.

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6 (Canceled) The cleaning utensil as in claim 1, wherein said gripping member comprises a flexible container having a silicon gel therein.

7. (Original) A cleaning utensil comprising:

a panel having a top surface, a bottom surface and a peripheral edge extending between said top and bottom surfaces, said top surface having a generally rectangular shape such that said peripheral edge includes a front edge, a back edge, a first side edge and a second side edge, said panel comprising a rigid material, a plurality of bristles being attached to and extending away from said bottom surface of said panel;

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 a securing means being attached to said panel for removably securing said panel to the hand of a user, said securing means comprising a strap having a first end and a second end, said first end being attached to said first side edge and said second end being attached to said second side edge, said strap comprising a resiliently stretchable cloth material; and

a gripping member being attached to said top surface, said gripping member being positioned between said front and back edges, said gripping member extending upwardly from said top surface in an arcuate manner, said gripping member being contoured to the general shape of a hand, said gripping member comprising a flexible container having a silicon gel therein.

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8. (New) A holder assembly for use with a conventional brush having a rigid flat panel and a plurality of bristles being attached to and extending away from a bottom surface of the panel, the holder assembly comprising:
- a gripping member being engagable to the flat panel of the brush, the gripping member being adapted for being placed in a palm of a user; and
 - a securing means operationally coupled to said gripping member for selectively securing said gripping member to a hand of the user.
9. (New) The holder assembly of claim 8, wherein said gripping member further comprises:
- a flat bottom wall adapted for abutting a top surface of the flat panel of the brush; and
 - a arcuate upper wall coupled to a perimeter edge of said flat bottom wall, said arcuate upper wall extending away from said flat bottom wall as it extends away from said perimeter edge.
10. (New) The holder assembly of claim 9, wherein said flat bottom wall comprising a resiliently flexible material for frictionally engaging the top surface of the flat panel of the brush whereby moving said gripping member along a horizontal plane moves the brush.
11. (New) The holder assembly of claim 9, wherein said flat bottom wall comprises silicone.
12. (New) The holder assembly of claim 9, wherein said flat bottom wall and said arcuate upper wall define an interior space, said arcuate upper wall being resiliently flexible.

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13. (New) The holder assembly of claim 12, wherein said interior space being filled with a gel material for supporting the palm of the user while allowing said gripping material to be temporarily deformed.

14. (New) The holder assembly of claim 8, further comprising:
 said gripping member having a flat bottom wall and an arcuate upper wall, said flat bottom wall being adapted for abutting a top surface of the flat panel of the brush, said arcuate upper wall being coupled to a perimeter edge of said flat bottom wall, said arcuate upper wall extending away from said flat bottom wall as it extends away from said perimeter edge;

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 said flat bottom wall comprising a resiliently flexible material for frictionally engaging the top surface of the flat panel of the brush whereby moving said gripping member along a horizontal plane moves the brush;

said flat bottom wall and said arcuate upper wall defining an interior space, said arcuate upper wall being resiliently flexible; and
 said interior space being filled with a gel material for supporting the palm of the user while allowing said gripping material to be temporarily deformed.

15. (New) The holder assembly of claim 14, wherein said securing means comprises a strap having a first end and a second end, said first end being attached to a first side edge of said gripping member and said second end being attached to a second side edge of said gripping member.

16. (New) The holder assembly of claim 14, wherein said strap comprises a resiliently stretchable material.

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17. (New) The holder assembly of claim 8, wherein said securing means comprises a strap having a first end and a second end, said first end being attached to a first side edge of said gripping member and said second end being attached to a second side edge of said gripping member.

18. (New) The holder assembly of claim 8, wherein said strap comprises a resiliently stretchable material.

19. (New) A holder assembly for use with a conventional brush having a rigid flat panel and a plurality of bristles being attached to and extending away from a bottom surface of the panel, the holder assembly comprising:

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 a gripping member being engagable to the flat panel of the brush, the gripping member being adapted for being placed in a palm of a user said gripping member having a flat bottom wall and an arcuate upper wall, said flat bottom wall being adapted for abutting a top surface of the flat panel of the brush, said arcuate upper wall being coupled to a perimeter edge of said flat bottom wall, said arcuate upper wall extending away from said flat bottom wall as it extends away from said perimeter edge;

said flat bottom wall comprising a resiliently flexible material for frictionally engaging the top surface of the flat panel of the brush whereby moving said gripping member along a horizontal plane moves the brush;

said flat bottom wall and said arcuate upper wall defining an interior space, said arcuate upper wall being resiliently flexible; and said interior space being filled with a gel material for supporting the palm of the user while allowing said gripping material to be temporarily deformed;

a securing means operationally coupled to said gripping member for selectively securing said gripping member to a hand of the user;

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said securing means comprises a strap having a first end and a second end, said first end being attached to a first side edge of said gripping member and said second end being attached to a second side edge of said gripping member; and

wherein said strap comprises a resiliently stretchable material.

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